FBIS DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

Latin America

Vol VI No 028 *9 February 1984*

INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

L.A. Tribunal To Put Reagan Policies on Trial A 1
ALASEI Manager Explains Information Service A 1
[Mexico City UNOMASUNO 6 Feb]

ARGENTINA

Dante Caputo on Nuclear Treaty, Falklands B 1
Ambassador Comments on Beagle Talks, Falklands B 1
Government To Appeal Union Intervention Decision B 1
Long-Distance Bus Drivers Strike Illegal B 2
Judge Orders Arraignment of General, Admiral B 2

BRAZIL

Commentary on Secretary of State Shultz' Visit D 1
Disappointment Noted [JORNAL DO BRASIL 8 Feb] D 1
Businessman Terms Stance 'Bluff' [O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO 8 Feb] D 2
Proposal for L.A. Bloc Excluding U.S. Scored D 2
[JORNAL DO BRASIL 7 Feb]
Minister Discusses Steel, Sugar Exports to U.S. D 3
Cardinal Glemp Planning To Visit 19 February D 3
6 Tons of Radioactive Lead Stolen From Lab D 3

CHILE

Pinochet Adviser on Future Role in Pacific [EL MERCURIO 28 Jan] E 1
Sweden Said Giving Opposition $1.24 Million E 1
Intendant Says Forest Fires Deliberately Set E 2
Nazi Hunter Klarsfeld Arrested at Demonstration E 2
Released, Plans Paraguay Visit E 2

COLOMBIA

Alfonsin, Caputo Statements in Bogota Cited [EL TIEMPO 6 Feb] F 1
Betancur Orders Guerrilla's Body Given to Mother F 1
M-19 Announces Rejection of 11 March Elections F 2
FARC Accused of Executing Peasant 'Informers' F 2

VENEZUELA

Petroleum, Central Bank Presidents Dismissed L 1
New Bank President Named L 1

MEXICO

President De la Madrid Holds Press Conference M 1
Palme Meets With Sepulveda, Other Officials M 1

PANAMA

Foreign Minister on Contadora Developments N 1
PRD Announces Ardito Barletta's Nomination N 2
Electoral Tribunal Delivers Final List of Voters N 2

CENTRAL AMERICA

COSTA RICA

Authorities Deny Pastora Resident Status [LA REPUBLICA 2 Feb] P 1
French Envoy Discusses Visit, C.A. Situation P 1
Steps Taken To Register New Communist Party [LA NACION 1 Feb] P 2
Briefs: Political Party Registers P 3

EL SALVADOR

Foreign Ministry Protests Nicaraguan Statement P 3
COPREFA Reports Clashes With Extremists P 4
Leftists Stage Attacks on La Libertad Farms P 4
COPREFA: 29 Soldiers 'Murdered' P 4
Farabundo Marti Claims Villages Bombed P 5

GUATEMALA

Mejia Rules Out Elections State of Siege P 5
UN, OAS Invited To Observe P 5
Briefs: New Ambassadors; Foreign Ministry Economist Dismissed P 5

HONDURAS

Minister 'Delighted' Over Reagan's Candidacy [TIEMPO 7 Feb] P 6
Briefs: New Guatemalan Ambassador; Foreign Ministry Changes; Ambassador to EEC P 6

NICARAGUA

Official on Fundamental Statute Amendments P 7
Roving French Ambassador Condemns Air Raids P 7
Voice of Sandino: Borge Has Drug Money in Panama P 8
ARDE Creates Commissions To Draft Bills [Voice of Sandino] P 8
Briefs: Bulgarian Telecommunications Aid; Iranian, Austrian Visitors; Workers to Bulgaria; Delegation to Dominican Republic P 9

CUBA

Commentary Charges U.S. Behind Guatemalan Coups Q 1
Commentators View Brazil-U.S. Relations Q 1
UNEAC Issues Communique on Marti Radio Station Q 4
Castro Meets With Office of People's Government Q 5
People's Government Reviews Electoral Progress Q 5
WFDY Executive Committee Ends 2-Day Meeting Q 5
SNTCG Leaders Meet With USSR Trade Minister Q 6
Australian Brigade Departs After 3-Week Stay Q 6

Medical Agreement Signed With Dominican Republic Q 6
Officials Cited on Central American Situation Q 6
De la Espriella on Intervention Q 6
De la Madrid on Kissinger Report Q 7
Ecuador's Borja on U.S. Policy Q 7
French Envoy on C.A. Crisis Q 8
FMLN Offensive, Army Actions in El Salvador Q 8
FMLN Occupies 5 Towns Q 8
Army Shells Towns Q 8
Clashes in Usulutan, San Miguel Q 9
Guatemalan Rebel Explains URNG Achievements Q 9
Guatemalan Anti-Communist Alliance Meets Q 10
Palme To Visit Nicaragua, Talk to FSLN Leaders Q 11
Senator, Deputies Declare Hunger Strike in Peru Q 11

CARIBBEAN

Caribbean Churches on U.S. Presence in Grenada S 1

DOMINICA

Minister Complains About Use of Foreign Exchange S 1

JAMAICA

Former JLP Leader on Lack of Elected Opposition S 2

GUYANA

North Korean Delegation To Arrive 17 Feb T 1
Assembly Debates, Approves Government's Budget T 1
Police Prevent Clash Between PNC, PPP Supporters T 2

SURINAME

Private Sector Fails To Nominate Cabinet Members U 1
DE WARE TIJD Newspaper Quoted on Loan From U.S. U 1

OTHER COUNTRIES

BOLIVIA

Businessmen's Stoppage Concludes; No Incidents V 1

PARAGUAY

Former MOPOCO President Returns From Exile [ABC COLOR 7 Feb] V 1

PERU

Marines Replace Striking Port Stevedores V 1
Interior Minister Reports on Shining Path V 2

URUGUAY

General Rapela Named New Interior Minister V 2
Health Employee Detained for Ties With PVP V 2

L.A. TRIBUNAL TO PUT REAGAN POLICIES ON TRIAL

PA090230 Quito Radio Quito in Spanish 2300 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Text] On Monday the Latin American Tribunal [Tribunal Latinoamericano] will put North American President Ronald Reagan's policy toward this continent on trial. The tribunal will be chaired by internationalist Guillermo Toriello.

As reported by the organizers -- Ecuadoran painter Oswaldo Guayasamin and writer Pedro Jorge Vera -- the trial will be held in open court at the university theatre [not further identified]. They explained that all judicial proceedings will be complied with during the trial, that is there will be a defense counsel, a presecutor, and a jury. Depositions and testimony will be [word indistinct] and the jury will then return a verdict and impose sanctions as appropriate.

It was reported that the charges against Reagan include among others the deaths caused by his foreign policy, the Grenada invasion, the attacks on Nicaragua, and the economic and military advice to the Salvadoran Government.

The organizers said that the precedents for this trial -- which may become historic -- are the trials at Nuremberg [juicio contra Nuremberg] of the genocidal Nazis.

ALASEI MANAGER EXPLAINS INFORMATION SERVICE

PA080450 Mexico City UNOMASUNO in Spanish 6 Feb 84 p 12

[By Blanche Petrich]

[Text] German Carnero Roque, general manager of the Latin American Agency for Special Information Services, ALASEI, has said that the organization, born as an "international answer" to the suggestions made by UNESCO regarding a new order in the management of international information, "will not compete with the big U.S. agencies, but will rather be a complementary service." ALASEI is an agency formed by 10 countries of the region, among them Mexico.

Aside from Mexico, two other Contadora Group countries -- Venezuela and Panama -- are part of ALASEI; therefore, the organization's information work will be closely related to the Central American conflict.

However, the handling of information originating in this region "will give priority to the information that unites Latin Americans and not to the information that divides them. The news will be treated so as to achieve the self-determination, independence, and sovereignty of the countries of the area," Canero Roque said. He added that "in view of what is happening in Central America, ALASEI must be an instrument of support for the Contadora Group because the Contadora Group's philosophy is precisely the one that we, as an agency, maintain."

The other countries that are currently part of ALASEI are Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Cuba, Haiti, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, and Bolivia, although the agency's goal is to cover the whole subcontinent. "Its expansion is therefore directly tied to the development or the reestablishment of democratic institutions," ALASEI's general manager said. He added that on his next trip he will visit Argentina to analyze its possible incorporation into the organization.

"The structuring of ALASEI is a very complex task," Carnero Roque commented. He admitted that the general economic crisis of the region is one of the difficulties faced by the organization. However, "these difficulties make organizing the information branch of Latin America an indispensable task."

Carnero Roque said that one of ALASEI's basic principles is its pluralistic nature. "It is not a government organization or an official agency. It is autonomous. The phenomenon of social communication is one of shared responsibility. State participation within this program is of course indispensable, but other sectors will also be involved."

It has been therefore stipulated that "all sectors of society involved with social communications, including owners, reporters, investigators, and staff," will participate in the management of the organization. These sectors will also be represented in organizations such as the Inter-American Press Association, IAPA; the Federation of Latin American Journalists, FELAP; the Latin American Association of Communications Researchers, ALAIC; and the Latin American Federation of Social Communications Professionals [Federacion Latinoamericana de Facultativos de la Comunicacion Social].

DANTE CAPUTO ON NUCLEAR TREATY, FALKLANDS

PY081653 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1622 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 8 Feb (TELAM) -- Foreign Minister Dante Caputo this morning said that the Argentine Government has ruled out any possibility of signing the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty.

Speaking about the Malvinas, the minister said that Argentina finds it impossible to accept negotiations with Great Britain that would imply giving up sovereignty over the archipelago.

AMBASSADOR COMMENTS ON BEAGLE TALKS, FALKLANDS

PY082159 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 2000 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Text] On returning to the country today, Hugo Gobbi, ambassador for special foreign affairs, said at Ezeiza Airport that progress is foreseen in the negotiations and that the two-ocean principle is being discussed right now.

The diplomat has been conducting negotiations in Rome with the papal mediation office on the Argentine-Chilean border dispute over the Beagle Channel.

Gobbi denied having participated in the meeting at the Holy See last Monday between the Argentine and Chilean delegations. Asked about the status of the negotiations, he said that the pope has requested a great deal of discretion.

Asked about the impact of the British refusal to accept the Argentine proposal to replace the British military forces on the Malvinas Islands by a UN peacekeeping force, he said that the UK refusal did not elicit a great deal of reaction. Gobbi concluded by saying that the West European press favors Argentina.

GOVERNMENT TO APPEAL UNION INTERVENTION DECISION

PY081410 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2345 GMT 7 Feb 84

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 7 Feb (NA) -- The executive branch today instructed the treasury's attorney to appeal the decision handed down by Judge Juan Jose Fernandez Salgado, who last week ordered that "no innovation" was to be made in the United Trade Union of State Petroleum Workers (SUPE), thus invalidating the naming of a trustee for that labor union.

Fernandez Salgado today handed down a similar decision concerning the Federation of Telephone Workers and Employees of the Argentine Republic (FOETRA). The Labor Ministry had named a trustee for this union as a replacement for the current transitional committee.

President Raul Alfonsin and Labor Minister Mucci discussed the situation caused by the interventions in SUPE, FEOTRA, and the Paperworkers Union at a working dinner yesterday at the presidential residence in Olivos.

LONG-DISTANCE BUS DRIVERS STRIKE ILLEGAL

PY081844 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1747 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 8 Feb (TELAM) -- The Argentine Labor Ministry has declared the strike of long-distance bus drivers illegal. This decision was made today by Rogelio Fernando Azzi, national director of labor relations.

JUDGE ORDERS ARRAIGNMENT OF GENERAL, ADMIRAL

PY081405 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1700 GMT 7 Feb 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 7 Feb (TELAM) -- It has been reported in court that Federal Judge Siro de Martini at noon today ordered that Admiral Carlos Alberto Lacoste, retired, and General Antonio Merlo, retired, are to be arraigned in the case of alleged irregularities in the state enterprise Mundial 78, which organized the world soccer championship in Argentina. The judge ordered the arrest of the two officers so that they can testify within the next few days, and no writ asking for the release of Lacoste and Merlo has been submitted to the court.

COMMENTARY ON SECRETARY OF STATE SHULTZ' VISIT

Disappointment Noted

PY090024 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 8 Feb 84 p 16

[By Etevaldo Dias]

[Text] Brasilia -- The visit of U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz will affect the platforms being offered by the presidential hopefuls. In talks with Brazilian officials, speeches, and press conferences, Shultz dismissed the possibility of the government-to-government negotiation on Brazil's foreign debt, which three presidential candidates are proposing. So it was reported by a Planalto Palace adviser.

In the adviser's analysis, Shultz made it clear that the United States hopes that Brazil will find "a satisfactory solution to its financial difficulties," as he put it in one of his speeches. The secretary of state suggested, however, that Brazil should open its markets to new U.S. investments. In his speech after the luncheon given for him at Itamaraty, Shultz said that "capital for investments is as important as trade increases."

The appeal for Brazil to open areas to new foreign investment was construed by a government official as a suggestion for the Brazilian Government to open the market in the area of data processing, to eliminate restrictions on U.S. banks' expansion in the country, and to be more liberal toward foreign capital.

Shultz' statement disappointed government sectors that had not expected that kind of suggestion, but rather concrete measures to help Brazil overcome its economic crisis. According to the same Planalto adviser, Shultz at no time revealed any U.S. Government inclination to adopt privileged measures toward Brazil. Even the emphasis that Shultz gave to the possibility of increasing imports from Brazil was made with due regard to the normal capacity of the U.S. market.

As noted by the same adviser, Shultz did not even promise to reduce protectionist measures against Brazilian products. In his press interview, the secretary of state made it clear that the United States will continue to protect its products with surcharges any time the practice of dumping or the granting of subsidies is proven to exist. The Planalto source recalled that this is precisely the critical point in Brazil's trade with the United States, because the North Americans impose surcharges on several Brazilian products which are, in their view, subsidized.

As for the Brazilian foreign debt, the only thing that Shultz made clear was that the United States is still willing to provide "short term" assistance in a "bind," the Planalto adviser put it. This type of assistance, as the $1.2 billion loan which President Reagan made to Brazil during his visit to Brasilia in November 1982, is intended to protect the U.S. banking system from Brazil's liquidity crisis rather than to assist the Brazilian Government, the Planalto source noted.

Businessman Terms Stance 'Bluff'

PY090051 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 8 Feb 84 p 21

[Excerpts] As far as the president of the Brazilian Computers and Peripheral Equipment Industry Association (ABICOMP), Edson Fregni, is concerned, the argument put forth by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz that restrictions on Brazilian steel imports are largely due to restrictions on the data processing equipment market in Brazil is nothing but a "bluff." In his opinion the Brazilian Government would be "naive" should it "go for that story," because restrictions will be kept just the same. Firmino Rocha de Freitas, president of the Brazilian Electro-Electronic Industry Association (ABINEE), said yesterday in Sao Paulo that the results of the talks between Secretary of State George Shultz and Brazilian Government officials are disappointing.

PROPOSAL FOR L.A. BLOC EXCLUDING U.S. SCORED

PY082338 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 7 Feb 84 p 10

[Editorial: "Everything Separates Us"]

[Text] President Raul Alfonsin has made the mistake of viewing all Latin American countries as equals, that is, as inferior to the industrialized countries and thus falling into the Third World pitfall. This supposition inevitably leads to the conclusion that the United States is responsible for the Latin American disasters and to the mistaken idea of the need for underdeveloped countries to unite in order to act as a bloc before the developed countries.

An Organization of American States without the participation of the United States would at the most constitute a wailing chorus. In the American Continent, which only generates rhetoric, such an organization would not manage to change the nature of the problems that vary from country to country. Without the participation of the United States, whom Alfonsin accuses of "crippling our trade," we would only be short an important buyer and supplier. Latin American countries are with respect to one another in the trade field. They buy according to their needs and sell according to the capabilities of the other countries. How are they going to form a bloc against developed countries? This unity will not improve each country's production nor will it guarantee the bloc a competitive level. The idea of organizing a bloc to deal with the industrialized world and to obtain miraculous advantages is merely a fantasy.

Will the Latin American countries be capable of uniting and imposing a trade volume on the industrialized world that will free Latin America of the need to sell its goods to the United States? One can talk about a bloc in speeches, but things change when it comes to foreign trade. Will the new, exclusive OAS stop importing an inflation rate which it refuses to admit is the result of its inefficient economic polity? No one asked Latin America, either united or separately, to increase its sales to the socialist bloc or to broaden the scope of goods sold to the EEC.

To insist on blaming the United States only helps to revive a foreign enemy that has lost its efficiency but that serves as the same pretext for the countries and aborted political regimes to excuse themselves for all they fail to do. Our enemy is amongst us, insisting that we unite, but in reality that unity does not exist. We can seem united in speeches, but our interests definitely separate us because we will still need to compete within the Third World.

MINISTER DISCUSSES STEEL, SUGAR EXPORTS TO U.S.

PY091305 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Text] At the end of his visit to Washington, Industry Minister Camilo Pena said that Brazil is about to reach a steel export agreement with the United States. He said that although Brazil may not achieve all the desired results, it will obtain most of them.

Regarding sugar exports, Brazil expects to increase its sales quota to the United States. The sugar quota had been cut in half to help other American countries, but the industry minister noted that the north eastern region of Brazil needs as much help as the Caribbean countries.

CARDINAL GLEMP PLANNING TO VISIT 19 FEBRUARY

PY081847 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes in Portuguese 1600 GMT 7 Feb 84

[Text] Polish Cardinal Jozef Glemp is expected to arrive in Brazil on 19 February. This will be the first visit by a Polish Catholic Church leader to a South American country since Pope John Paul II's visit.

Cardinal Glemp will spend most of his 11 days in our country in the southern region, where there is a large number of Polish immigrants. He will also visit Brasilia, but he is not scheduled to meet with President Figueiredo.

6 TONS OF RADIOACTIVE LEAD STOLEN FROM LAB

PY081800 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes in Portuguese 1600 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Text] Sao Paulo residents are concerned over the theft of six tons of radioactive lead from the nuclear accelerator of the Sao Paulo University nuclear physics laboratory. Because the police have not paid any attention to the case, university professors are carrying out the investigation by themselves. It is believed that minors from local shantytowns may have been involved in the theft. The following is a report from (Maria Cida):

[Begin (Maria Cida) relay] It is believed that there is already a clue in the theft of the six tons of radioactive lead from the linear accelerator belonging to the Sao Paulo University physics laboratory.

According to an anonymous phone call last Sunday, some children who take care of cars at the sports park, which is in front of the laboratory, transported lead bricks through an opening in the park gate. According to this anonymous phone call, the children noted that there was [words indistinct] of some adults. This leads people to believe that the people who stole the radioactive lead used the children to help them transport the six tons of radioactive lead.

The guard at the park said that he saw the lead bricks and that he even touched one of them. [end relay]

PINOCHET ADVISER ON FUTURE ROLE IN PACIFIC

PY081700 Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 28 Jan 84 p C 3

[Text] The president's new adviser, Mario Arnello, indicated yesterday that the objective of his mission is to prepare the basis in various specific areas for what could possibly be the Chile of the 21st century.

During a chat with journalists after visiting Interior Minister Sergio Onofre Jarpa at La Moneda Palace, the former national deputy said that "we must start to study and think, with good sense and our feet firmly on the ground, in order to point out future possibilities for Chile in various areas." He added that many things have already been done and that many persons and institutions have been concerned with this for some time.

"Then," he said, "it is a question of putting everything together, of reviewing it, and of studying new alternatives. The next step will be to see whether matters can be coordinated, because at times good individual ideas can be contradictory, and they may not fit in the overall project. After that we will see whether we can submit a coherent project to the president."

"I believe," he said, "that if very concrete, very specific, objectives can be pointed out, they could undoubtedly influence certain policies, actions and investments, so that they could be channeled in such a way that they would be in harmony with that final objective. "Thus, we could resolve not only the immediate problems, but also those that begin to have a certain significance."

As an example of a specific task, he referred to the important role that Chile could play in the Pacific, which, of course, must first be studied with an eye to the future for what has been called the "era of the Pacific." He added that this study cannot be projected only for the years just ahead of us; thought will also have to be given to what Chile requires to undertake the role that it should play in the Pacific during the 21st century. "Therefore, it is important that we are not surprised by events, but that we can anticipate them," he concluded.

Asked about the surprise that his wide-ranging powers have caused, the member of the Fourth Legislative Committee said that it had not been such a surprise, because the president, in his 11 September message to the country, referred exactly to the tasks that Chile will have in the future.

When it was pointed out to him that the scope of his functions is so ample that it even surpasses that of a minister, Arnello stated that his functions have nothing to do with the executive responsibility of the ministers.

SWEDEN SAID GIVING OPPOSITION $1.24 MILLION

PY081258 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Text] The Swedish Government intervention in financing political subversion in Chile has been confirmed. Swedish Foreign Affairs Minister Lennart Bodstrom himself has reported this fact to the Swedish Parliament in Stockholm. Bodstrom reported to a special commission that 10 million kronor, worth $1.24 million, are currently being granted annually to political organizations opposing the Pinochet government in Chile.

Bodstrom added that these funds have been supplied for 10 years, and that 10 million kronor are being currently granted to the opposition for financing activities aimed against the present Chilean Government. Bodstrom's report to the Swedish Parliament is the first public and official evidence of Swedish meddling in Chilean domestic affairs through money granted to the Chilean opposition.

INTENDANT SAYS FOREST FIRES DELIBERATELY SET

PY081625 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Excerpts] Vice Admiral Luis de los Rios Echeverria, retired, intendant of the 5th Region, has charged that the serious forest fires have been caused by the concerted action of subversive elements. Vice Adm Echeverria made this accusation at the opening of the Vina del Mar song contest. He added that the fires have been caused by arson, and he has learned that in Concepcion certain university students announced that there would soon be forest fires in the 5th Region. Vice Adm Echeverria said that these actions are designed to cause damage and to smear Chile's image, both at the Vina del Mar song contest and at the foreign ministers meetings, to be held at Quinta Vergara and the Miramar Hotel, respectively.

Interior Minister Jarpa has admitted that the fires in the 5th Region were arson. He said that at least five fires were started with flammable substances, namely in (Cuchuncavi), El Colorado, the Valparaiso hills, (Renaca), and the botanical gardens in Quinta Vergara, Vina del Mar.

According to information supplied by the Presidency Press Secretariat, General Augusto Pinochet yesterday ordered that the people affected by the fires in the 5th Region and in part of Santiago be cared for. Gen Pinochet instructed the Valparaiso and metropolitan intendants to personally and expeditiously look into the problems of those affected.

NAZI HUNTER KLARSFELD ARRESTED AT DEMONSTRATION

PY081558 Paris AFP in Spanish 1545 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Excerpt] Santiago, 8 Feb (AFP) -- Nazi Hunter Beate Klarsfeld, who recently asked Chilean authorities to expel former Nazi Colonel Walter Rauff, was arrested today in Santiago while leading a street demonstration. AFP correspondents saw police arrest Mrs Klarsfeld who, together with other demonstrators, had stationed herself in front of Rauff's residence in eastern Santiago.

Released, Plans Paraguay Visit

PY081810 Paris AFP in Spanish 1654 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Text] Santiago, 8 Feb (AFP) -- Nazi hunter Beate Klarsfeld was released here today shortly after being arrested by the Chilean police for heading a demonstration in front of former Nazi SS officer Walter Rauff's home. Mrs Klarsfeld was held at a militarized Carabinero police station for 10 minutes. According to police sources, she was only held while consultations were underway and was released without having been questioned.

The anti-Nazi activist is planning to leave for Asuncion at 1300 tomorrow. There she will ask that former Nazi doctor Josef Mengele, allegedly hiding in that country, be expelled.

ALFONSIN, CAPUTO STATEMENTS IN BOGOTA CITED

PA080210 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 6 Feb 84 pp 1A, 8A

[Article by Roman Medina]

[Excerpts] Early yesterday Argentine President Raul Aflonsin said in a Bogota news conference with Colombian and Argentine newsmen that it is not possible to rebuild a country if one acts with a feeling of vengefulness. He emphasized that he is seeking reconciliation based in truth, justice, and love. "We cannot build the country that we want if our views are colored by vengefulness. However, neither can we build democracy by relinquishing our ethics, which is what we would undoubtedly be doing if we acted as if nothing had happend in our country."

For his part, Argentine Foreign Minister Dante Caputo announced that his country will formally propose the creation of a Latin American political forum that excludes the United States, and another forum, which could be established through the OAS, that would include the United States. He expalined that the idea is to create within already existing organizations forums for political discussion that will allow Latin Americans to get to know each other and become familiar with the political viewpoints of the region. In President Alfonsin's opinion, Colombian-Argentine relations have never deteriorated. In fact, Alfonsin praised our country, particularly for its solidarity in the Malvinas affair. Discussing the OAS, he said that he favors maintaining an organization in which it is possible to publicly discuss the problems of the subcontinent with the United States.

Toward a Coalition?

The president emphasized that his country cannot stray from the path of strengthening democracy and hinted at the possibility that there may be a grouping of political forces that would result, in this time of economic emergency for Argentina, in having social, economic, and political sectors decide what measures are necessary to reconstruct the Argentine economy. He added that his country is committed to the path of reconciliation: "A reconciliation that we must carry out on the basis of truth, justice, and, if I may say so, love. It cannot be otherwise. We cannot build the country that we want by looking backward with the feeling that we have been deceived."

Commenting on the Kissinger report on Central America, President Alfonsin said that some progress can be noted in it, especially considering that it realistically points to social injustice as one of the causes of the problem. However, he noted that unfortunately, at the same time, the report does not rule out the possibility of military intervention, which is detrimental to the concept of international politics.

Continuing in this vein, he expressed the opinion that the United States must be convinced that the presence of a socially advanced government in Nicaragua does not constitute a threat to U.S. security.

BETANCUR ORDERS GUERRILLA'S BODY GIVEN TO MOTHER

PA081607 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Text] Bogota -- President Belisario Betancur today ordered that the remains of [19 April Movement, M-19] leader Jaime Bateman Cayon be turned over to his mother.

Bateman's remains were found inside an HK-2139 light aircraft that crashed in Panama. With this order the government confirmed that one of the skeletons recently recovered near the Colombian-Panamanian border belonged to the M-19 leader. Bateman died on 28 April 1983, when the aircraft in which he was traveling with two of his men and pilot Antonio Escobar Bravo, a former parliamentarian, crashed.

Today Narino Palace published the notes exchanged by President Betancur and Clementina Cayon de Bateman, who was concerned about reports that certain government officials wanted to keep Bateman's body.

In his response, the president stressed: I have instructed the appropriate authorities to give you the remains of your son, Jaime Bateman Cayon, so that as the aggrieved mother you can make all the necessary funeral and burial arrangements. After calling himself a fellow countryman and a friend, President Betancur expressed his condolences as a Christian to the rebel's mother.

M-19 ANNOUNCES REJECTION OF 11 MARCH ELECTIONS

PA081750 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0518 GMT 7 Feb 84

[Text] Bogota, 7 Feb (EFE) -- The Colombian guerrilla 19 April Movement (M-19) has announced that it will not support any political action designed to renew the municipal councils and departmental assemblies in the upcoming 11 March elections.

Carlos Toledo Plata, an M-19 founder and ideologist, has told the television newscast "24 Hours" that the organization is continuing to make plans; therefore, it will continue to seek a truce through dialogue with the government.

Some former M-19 members who took advantage of the recent amnesty period announced that they will present their own list of M-19 candidates for the public posts.

FARC ACCUSED OF EXECUTING PEASANT INFORMERS

PA081911 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Text] Bucaramanga -- Military spokesmen have disclosed that the number of peasants killed by members of the 12th front column of the self-styled Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, FARC, rose to seven in the last few hours. Members of that subversive organization today entered Las Palmas, in Cimitarra municipality, and after accusing several peasants of being Army informants killed them with guns and machetes. According to the report, the rebels, wearing military uniforms and carrying weapons, arrived on the land owned by peasants Oscar Galeano and brothers Hernan, Jorge, Alfonso, and Edilberto Montoya. Without saying anything, they decapitated the men.

Later, the members of this subversive group, led by guerrilla leader (Jose Vargas Chala), also known as Esteban, went to (Finca Los Manzanos) and killed peasants Francisco Elias Cardona and Jairo Garces. Beside the peasants' bodies, the members of this armed command left subversive propaganda about their guerrilla organization.

Troops from the 14th and 15th Brigades, which are based in Bucaramanga, are coordinating a large-scale operation to locate these seditious elements, who have escaped to a mountainous zone in the department.

PETROLEUM, CENTRAL BANK PRESIDENTS DISMISSED

PA081900 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1642 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Text] Caracas, 8 Feb (DPA) -- Humberto Calderon Berti, president of Venezuelan Petroleum (POVSA), was dismissed today by a presidential decree. Calderon Berti had held the post for 6 months, after occupying the post of energy and mines minister during virtually the entire 5-year term of former President Luis Herrera Campins.

He was notified of his dismissal today by new Energy and Mines Minister Arturo Hernandez Grisanti. The new board of Venezuelan Petroleum will be sworn in today at 2200 GMT by President Jaime Lusinchi at Miraflores Palace.

Asked who the new president of the Venezuelan oil organization will be, Arturo Hernandez Grisanti replied that "out of basic courtesy" he would not disclose the name.

Reliable sources have told Hamburg DPA that the new oil president will be Brigido Natera, an oil expert, who for many years was in charge of one of the largest U.S. oil companies operating in Venezuela.

After learning he would be replaced, Calderon Berti stated, "I believe I have done my duty faithfully," adding that for the moment he will "get organized," and that "in a few days I will talk about some important aspects of my work in the Energy and Mines Ministry and with Venezuelan Petroleum."

This is the second important move made by the new (Social Democratic) administration of President Jaime Lusinchi. Leopoldo Diaz Bruzual, president of the Central Bank of Venezuela, was dismissed the night before last in a move supported by virtually all citizens. However, Diaz Bruzual said he would take the case before the Supreme Court in an effort to be reinstated. The presidency of the Central Bank of Venezuela is a 5-year term, but according to legal provisions cited in the decree that removed Diaz Bruzual, an incumbent president can be removed since no contractual clause saying otherwise exists.

New Bank President Named

PA080223 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0805 GMT 7 Feb 84

[Excerpt] Caracas, 7 Feb [LATIN-REUTER] -- President Jaime Lusinchi has dismissed Leopoldo Diaz Bruzual as president of the Central Bank of Venezuela, appointing Benito Raul Losada in his place.

PRESIDENT DE LA MADRID HOLDS PRESS CONFERENCE

FL080240 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2155 GMT 7 Feb 84

[Text] Mexico City, 7 Feb (NOTIMEX) -- President Miguel de la Madrid today said that the involvement of the United States in Central America is not solving the problems but aggravating them, not only in Central America but also throughout all of Latin America.

During a press conference for foreign journalists, he said that a regional war had been avoided for more than a year, which is encouraging the countries of the Contadora Group to continue working with perseverance and patience. He also exhorted the countries that are interested in the area to abstain from acting in such a way that would impede the establishment of peace in the Central American countries.

The Mexican chief of state said that the moral renovation of society should not be confused with a climate of terror or political scandal, because it is a serious and profound program. He pointed out that moral renovation has had an impact on the people's opinion of the government because of the new federal law dealing with the responsibilities of officials and with administrative orders that provide for dealing with acts of corruption. He said that the aim of moral renovation is to show that Mexico has an honorable government, and that its officials do not engage in personal business activities and they do not take advantage of their positions for personal gain.

He also said that one of the main achievements of his government has been to maintain democracy and freedom, the survival of which was in doubt because of the country's serious economic and financial situation.

On another matter, President De la Madrid stressed the need to change the current foreign investment law. He proposed an active and selective policy, guiding foreign investment toward areas that would most benefit the country.

He recommended that the industrialized countries support the underdeveloped countries' efforts to improve their living conditions without imposing ideological conditions by following policies that respect the right of self-determination of peoples.

Referring to the right of asylum, he said that throughout its history Mexico has strictly respected it. He added that the right of asylum only benefits those who are being prosecuted for political offenses and not for common criminal violations.

PALME MEETS WITH SEPULVEDA, OTHER OFFICIALS

FL080304 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2110 GMT 7 Feb 84

[Text] Mexico City, 7 Feb (NOTIMEX) -- Sweden's Prime Minister Olof Palme this afternoon met with Secretary of Government Manuel Bartlett Diaz and Foreign Secretary Bernardo Sepulveda Amor. The meetings were cordial and covered matters of common interest.

The Swedish leader arrived at the Secretariat of Government after visiting Congress, where he delivered a message from his country in which he stated that his people are in solidarity with Mexico's international policy. Later the Swedish leader paid a courtesy visit to Sepulveda Amor. The two secretaries thanked the Swedish prime minister for visiting them. Both officials met the Swedish leader on his arrival at the airport yesterday.

FOREIGN MINISTER ON CONTADORA DEVELOPMENTS

PA081933 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 7 Feb 84

[Excerpts] The next joint meeting of the Contadora Group foreign ministers and their Central American counterparts has been scheduled for 29 February. This will be the sixth such joint meeting. Panamanian Foreign Minister Oyden Ortega Duran made the following comments to Radio Nacional:

[Begin recording -- in progress] [Ortega] ...would say within an atmosphere of positive attitudes. The commissions were created at a high economic, political, and social level as a part of the Contadora Group's plans.

In addition to attending President Jaime Lusinchi's inauguration, eight heads of state used the occasion to exchange views. They agreed on the need to increase the Contadora Group's progress and mediation toward achieving peace in Central America. This was stated in an important declaration that was signed by the heads of state and Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez and that acknowledges the Contadora Group's recent efforts.

[Unidentified reporter] What will the next steps be in Contadora's efforts toward peace?

[Ortega] There will be a lot of activity on security matters within the next few days. Information and solutions on this issue will be sought, so that final decisions, draft treaties, and the commissions' final reports may be completed.

[Reporter] There has been some mistrust of the U.S. attitude toward the Contadora Group, due to statements made by special envoy Richard Stone and U.S. Secretary of State Shultz. While you were in Caracas, did you gain any first-hand knowledge about U.S. foreign policy concerning a solution to the Central American conflict?

[Ortega] U.S. Administration officials have publicly said that they support the Contadora Group's efforts. The Latin American leaders who went to Caracas said there must now be more effective support from all countries, including the United States. This support must be without reservations, and it must be a firm, effective support guaranteeing the clear, unquestioned success of the Contadora Group's efforts.

[Reporter] On the same subject, what is your opinion of Cuba's recent actions to show a political willingness to resolve the conflict, considering that it has an important role in its origins?

[Ortega] It also has interests in the area, because it is a part of Central America and the Caribbean. In addition, it has an unquestionable influence in the area, and it must clearly prove that its support of the Contadora Group's contacts will comply with the pledges that the governments negotiating through the Contadora Group might adopt. [end recording]

PRD ANNOUNCES ARDITO BARLETTA'S NOMINATION

PA081252 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2300 GMT 7 Feb 84

[Interview with Berta Torrijos de Arosemena, president of the Panamanian Democratic Revolutionary Party's National Executive Committee, by an unidentified reporter "at a local hotel" in Panama City; no date given -- recorded]

[Excerpts] The Democratic National Union [Union Nacional Democratica], an alliance formed by the Democratic Revolutionary Party, PRD; the Labor Party, PALA; the Liberal Party; and the Republican Party has announced its support of presidential candidate Nicolas Ardito Barletta, former planning and economic policy minister and current vice president for Latin America of the World Bank. This was announced today at noon at a local hotel. Speaking to the press, Berta Torrijos de Arosemena, president of the PRD's National Executive Committee, read the communique announcing the Democratic National Union's support of Dr Nicolas Ardito Barletta and his aspirations to become president. Asked about the fact that Dr Nicolas Ardito Barletta is not a member of the party, Berta Torrijos de Arosemena said:

[Begin recording] [Torrijos de Arosemena] Dr Nicolas Ardito Barletta represents what the PRD stands for. We say this because he is a man who worked very closely with Omar [General Torrijos Herrera]. He helped in forming a government plan and a government when the cooperation of men like him was necessary. Omar appreciated him. For us, as a Torrijista party, this is very important. However, much more important is the use of the Torrijista method that he will follow during his campaign and in his future actions. We have a great responsibility to help lead the country. The whole country is waiting for the Torrijista method to continue, and we trust that Nicolas will continue it according to Omar's teaching.

[Reporter] Professor Torrijos, don't you think that the fact that Dr Nicolas Ardito Barletta is partially blamed for the country's large foreign debt will be detrimental to his presidential campaign?

[Torrijos de Arosemena] We believe that in the government plan drafted by General Torrijos the idea was to begin where the other governments ended to start our country's great development. We do believe that this attack against him [Ardito Barletta] is vindicated by the great infrastructure work done during this period, the great education and health programs accomplished, and the rise of man's dignity at that time. That is why the person who runs from debts to implement a program with deep political and social content for our country would not do any good. We know that all countries have debts, just as countries have economic problems.

ELECTORAL TRIBUNAL DELIVERS FINAL LIST OF VOTERS

PA071640 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2300 GMT 6 Feb 84

[Text] The Electoral Tribunal today delivered the final electoral lists to legal representatives of the registered political parties. The tribunal had previously presented a preliminary list based on the 12 December 1982 electoral census, which showed 840,000 voters. The final list shows 917,677 voters for the May and June elections, an increase of 80,000 [as heard] voters over the preliminary list. Dr Cesar Quintero, the Electoral Tribunal president, has urged the parties' representatives to examine the lists and make any necessary comments so that changes can be made to allow as many citizens as possible to vote in the coming elections.

COSTA RICA

AUTHORITIES DENY PASTORA RESIDENT STATUS

PA090024 San Jose LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 2 Feb 84 p 2

[Text] The Immigration Council yesterday decided to revoke the residence permit granted to Eden Pastora Gomez, also known as Commander Cero. Immigration Director General Mayela Morales said that Pastora's file at the Immigration Council has been closed, which means that everything has been done to annul his residence permit in Costa Rica.

Mayela Morales said that Pastora did not comply with Immigration Council requests that he present certain documents related to his efforts to obtain resident status in Costa Rica. The official denied that the Immigration Council's decision is linked to events since Pastora entered Costa Rica last Saturday to turn over 192 unarmed guerrillas. She also noted that Pastora's standing is now definite and that if he enters Costa Rica, he will be doing so illegally. Morales added that under no circumstances will Pastora be allowed to enter Costa Rica as long as he is involved in belligerent activities.

The official said in conclusion that the Immigration Council did not discuss the standing of Pastora's family and that their residence requests are being processed normally.

Commander Cero, or Eden Pastora, has repeatedly failed in his attempts to meet with President Luis Alberto Monge, as the president himself revealed minutes before leaving for Caracas yesterday. Monge said that Pastora had sent him messages requesting a meeting on several occasions, but that "these proposals, which would compromise Costa Rica's neutrality, were flatly rejected." Monge stated: "I admire men like Pastora, who fight for their ideals, but that does not oblige me to meet with him." The president said that "there is no reason for Pastora to be in Costa Rica."

He also noted that "the campaign against Costa Rica is being revived in Mexico, with encouragement from publications produced in San Jose."

Regarding the possibility of a meeting with Nicaraguan Commander Daniel Ortega in Caracas, Monge said that he has "no such plans."

FRENCH ENVOY DISCUSSES VISIT, C.A. SITUATION

PA081831 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Text] France's roving ambassador to Latin America, Antoine Blanca, left for Nicaragua this afternoon after a 3-day visit to Costa Rica. He said that the Contadora Group is persuasive, that France has placed its hopes for peace in Central America on the Contadora Group, and that with increased support the Group will be better able to prevent war and violence.

He also said Costa Rica is a free country with a democratic history, a country that has respect and support among a majority of the world's countries because it is a model for the democratization processes throughout the continent.

Antoine Blanca expressed the belief that the Salvadoran elections process does not have the spiritual calm it needs because leaders such as Victor Manuel Ungo and others are not being allowed to participate in the elections campaigns. For an elections process to be open and clam, all political forces must be able to participate equally, the French diplomat declared.

Blanca said that a test period is necessary in Nicaragua. He added, however, that it is logical that conditions for free and pluralist elections be established in order to resolve the internal conflict in that country.

Blanca stated that it is obvious and undeniable that Europeans are poorly informed about the true situation in Central America, adding that this must change. He said it is urgent for countries such as Costa Rica, El Salvador, and Nicaragua to obtain technical, financial, and other aid from European countries.

He explained his presence by saying that the purpose of his tour is to explain the views of the Mitterrand government to the Central American regimes. Blanca added that he is pleased with the results of his visit to Costa Rica. He said that a report on his visit should produce a change in his government's opinion of what is happening in the region.

STEPS TAKEN TO REGISTER NEW COMMUNIST PARTY

PA090137 San Jose LA NACION in Spanish 1 Feb 84 p 8-A

[Article by Victor Hugo Vargas]

[excerpts] The first step toward registering a new party to be called the Costa Rican Communist Party at the National level has been taken at the Supreme Electoral Tribunal (TSE) by a group of relatives and followers of Humberto Vargas Carbonell, the current secretary general of the Popular Vanguard Party [PVP], and by the PVP's parliamentary chief, Arnoldo Ferreto. Also involved is the spouse of Ana Hidalgo, the new PVP secretary general [as published; Hidalgo has been reported as the new secretary general of the Vanguardist Youth].

The stamped paper for recording the 3,009 signatures that the Electoral Code requires for the registration of a national party was received from the TSE by Manuel Enrique Delgado (Ana Hidalgo's husband); Jorge Arturo Corrales Zuniga, Vargas Carbonell's brother-in-law; and Francisco Zuiga Diaz, who is married to a daughter of Adela Ferreto, in other words, to Arnoldo Ferreto's niece.

Delgado is listed as president of the provisional executive committee, Zuniga as treasurer, and Corrales as secretary.

Although some PVP leaders are aware of the relationship among the movement's initiators, Ferreto insisted he does not know any of them. He added that "this is a dogged race to prevent anyone else from registering another communist party. As far as I know, there could be many motives," he said.

Vargas Carbonell declined to comment on the matter. "I have not seen that," was all he would say. Meanwhile Eduardo Mora Valverde, the PVP's former under secretary general who was expelled from the party by the Central Committee, which is controlled by Vargas and Ferreto, claims that the effort is "a desperate act, because they think the TSE's ruling on who will control the PVP's Central Committee, which will be issued in the next few days, will go against them. We are confident that the ruling will be in our favor," he reiterated.

One More

In addition to the attempts to register the Costa Rican Communist Party at the national level, a second movement is underway to establish another party, with the same name, at the cantonal level. According to documents submitted to the TSE (which will not be accepted until the TSE rules on the party promoted by the Vargas and Ferreto friends and relatives), the executive committee is made up of Auxiliadora Brenes Aguilar, president, Benedicto Soto Granados, treasurer; and Ligia Maria Solano Ramirez, secretary.

An attempt is being made to register the party in Alvarado canton, Cartago Province. The support of 1 percent of the registered voters of that canton is required for registration.

Attempts to gather details on the persons mentioned were unsuccessful. Ferreto said he did not know these people either, and last night Eduardo Mora was trying to find out who they are and to what PVP faction they belong. The move to register the Costa Rican Communist Party is part of a series of events within the local communist group since Manuel Mora, the founder of the movement, was relieved of the secretary general's position in December and replaced by Vargas Carbonell.

BRIEFS

POLITICAL PARTY REGISTERS -- Civil Registry Director Rafael Villegas has approved the registration of the Social Christian Union with the Supreme Electoral Tribunal. Villegas said the registration is final, despite legal efforts by the Christian Democratic Party [PDC] to prevent it. According to PDC leader Anibal Barquero, the matter will not be settled finally until the Supreme Electoral Tribunal rules on four appeals filed by his party. [Summary] [San Jose LA NACION in Spanish 25 Jan 84 p 8 PA]

EL SALVADOR

FOREIGN MINISTRY PROTESTS NICARAGUAN STATEMENT

PA090340 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0003 GMT 9 Feb 84

[Text] San Salvador, 9 Feb (ACAN-EFE) -- The Salvadoran Foreign Ministry has sent a protest to the Nicaraguan Government on a recent statement by Planning Minister Henry Ruiz reiterating his government's support of the Salvadoran guerrillas.

In the communique, the Salvadoran foreign minister said that Commander Ruiz' statement, which was made recently to a group of Nicaraguan educators, "is an attack on the democratization process being followed in El Salvador."

Ruiz said in Managua that the Sandinist government "cannot continue to be flexible in the face of U.S. aggression, but will support the Salvadoran guerrillas with all its moral force."

The Salvadoran Foreign Ministry communique says that such actions are compounded by other statements and interventionist actions carried out by the Nicaraguan Government, through its representatives, against El Salvador.

Salvadoran spokesmen have said that such actions "are aimed at creating an unfavorable atmosphere for the Salvadoran Government's democratization process, which is being carried out with the support of the people. Another step in this process will be taken in the 25 March presidential elections."

According to the Salvadoran Foreign Ministry, such statements of support "show the ties existing between the Nicaraguan Government and leftist groups such as the FDR and the FMLN."

In addition, the Foreign Ministry described the Nicaraguan minister's statement as "another unfriendly action going beyond being just declaratory and in contrast with the peace efforts reiterated by El Salvador in various regional and international forums."

The message also says that "Nicaragua is not really disposed to seek peace in the region, because with this statement it violated important aspects of the Contadora Group's Document of Objectives, which has been approved by all Central American governments."

COPREFA REPORTS CLASHES WITH EXTREMISTS

PA090206 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1730 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Communique issued by the Salvadoran Armed Forces Press Committee, COPREFA, in San Salvador; date not given]

[Text] COPREFA reports that yesterday, the Army killed six terrorists in various parts of the country. Troops of the 3d Infantry Brigade clashed with an extremist column near Chinameca in eastern San Miguel Department. Three extremists were killed and two FAL rifles and one M-60 machine gun were seized. The Army suffered one death.

In addition, on the San Vicente Volcano, San Vicente Department, troops from the 5th Infantry Brigade clashed with terrorists, who lost two men. Two FAL rifles were seized.

Also in San Vicente Department, near San Ildefonso, troops of the 5th Brigade caught an extremist column by surprise. In the attack, one extremist was killed and a G-3 rifle was seized. The Armed Forces suffered no casualties.

LEFTISTS STAGE ATTACKS ON LA LIBERTAD FARMS

PA090305 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1730 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Text] According to official and civilian reports, leftist-staged disturbances that started early last night near the Talcualuya and Atiocoyo farms, in San Juan Opica and San Pablo Tacachico, La Libertad Department, continued into the early hours of this morning. Military sources officially reported from Talcualuya farm that the leftists had set the sugar cane fields surrounding the main area of the farm on fire. They also killed nine Army soldiers in the area. An officer from the artillery detachment is among the injured. Other reports indicate that the terrorists burned two vehicles, a public bus and a truck, near the Talcualuya farm. The bus, belonging to the Duran mass transit company of Atiocoyo, was set afire during the attack.

COPREFA: 29 Soldiers 'Murdered'

PA090048 Paris AFP in Spanish 2248 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Text] San Salvador, 8 Feb (AFP) -- Twenty-three Salvadoran soldiers and six paramilitary personnel died today in a guerrilla attack on the Atiocoyo farm, La Libertad Department, approximately 45 km west of San Salvador, military sources have reported. The Armed Forces Press Committee (COPREFA) termed the incident "murder," saying that the soldiers were killed after they had been captured by the FMLN.

FARABUNDO MARTI CLAIMS VILLAGES BOMBED

PA090045 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 1830 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Excerpt] We were in direct contact last night with our correspondent Companera Marianela Montes of the Modesto Ramirez Central Front. She relayed an interview with Companero Lito, president of the people's power in the northern zone of the heroic Guazapa Hill. As we reported during our broadcasts yesterday, the villages of San Cristobal, Las Pavas, El Corozal, (Levantilla), and El Zapote, all in Suchitoto municipality, were heavily and indiscriminately bombed on 7 February by 11 helicopters, 2 "push-and-pull" [in English] planes, and 2 A-37 planes. All these war aircraft are U.S.-made.

Such is the well-being that the criminal dictatorship is offering our peasants. This is the situation that the criminals of the fascist high command and U.S. imperialism are trying to consolidate in the upcoming elections. They are trying to establish an unpopular government that will legalize Ronald Reagan's criminal aid to exterminate our people and peasants.

GUATEMALA

MEJIA RULES OUT ELECTIONS STATE OF SIEGE

PA090018 Guatemala City Radio Nuevo Mundo in Spanish 1200 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Excerpt] Guatemalan Head of State Humberto Mejia Victores has stated that a state of siege will not be declared in Guatemala, because he expects to conduct the elections without special measures.

Despite a wave of violence in Guatemala which could obstruct the normal development of activities, the upcoming elections will be held without the need to impose a state of siege to control outbreaks of violence, Mejia Victores said yesterday.

UN, OAS Invited To Observe

PA080452 Guatemala City Cadena de Emisoras Unidas in Spanish 0050 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Text] Guatemalan Foreign Minister Fernando Andrade Diaz-Duran today announced that the government has issued invitations to the United Nations and the Organization of American States to send observers to the 1 July elections, when a constituent assembly will be chosen. Invitations have been sent to the UN and OAS general secretariats, inviting both organizations to send representatives as observers.

The foreign minister added that invitations also have been sent to other international organizations that may wish to send observers to the July elections, and he added that the Guatemalan Government is committed to carrying out the democratic process.

Meanwhile, Guatemalan Chief of State General Oscar Mejia Victores today said that the elections for a Constituent Assembly will be held on the scheduled date even if acts of violence should occur. Under no circumstances will the elections by postponed.

BRIEFS

NEW AMBASSADORS -- Foreign Minister Fernando Andrade Diaz-Duran today swore in General Federico Fuentes Corado as the Guatemalan ambassador to El Salvador and Maria Mercedes Marroquin Milla as ambassador to the Dominican Republic. [Summary] [Hamburg DPA in Spanish 0138 GMT 25 Jan 84 PA]

FOREIGN MINISTRY ECONOMIST DISMISSED -- In a surprise move, Jorge Luis Borrayo, director of economic policy for the Guatemalan Foreign Ministry, who was recently elected president at the meeting on trade held by the Group of 77 in Guatemala City, was dismissed from his government post today. Official sources revealed that Borrayo's dismissed from his decided before the Group of 77's conference and was not related to it. [Summary] [Guatemala City Cadena de Emisoras Unidas in Spanish 0050 GMT 3 Feb 84 PA]

HONDURAS

MINISTER 'DELIGHTED' OVER REAGAN'S CANDIDACY

PA082021 San Pedro Sula TIEMPO in Spanish 7 Feb 84 p 5

[Text] Tegucigalpa

Official Bulletin

Oscar Mejia Arellano, government and justice secretary, optimistically said yesterday: "As a Honduran citizen, I would be delighted if Ronald Reagan were reelected." The official said that if Reagan is reelected, the country's situation in regard to democratic support and the strengthening of peace in the region will be improved.

The U.S. Administration has proven capable, and, personally, Mejia Arellano said, "I think it has been one of the best administrations because it has concerned itself with poor countries."

Another reason Reagan's reelection would be convenient for Honduras is the personal friendship which exists between Dr Roberto Suazo Cordova and the U.S. President. The U.S. President has many times offered his support so that the Honduran Government could solve its various problems. Mejia Arellano stressed his belief that the advantage of Reagan's reelection should not be overlooked.

Finally, Mejia Arellano commented that should Reagan emerge the winner in the coming elections, this would mean new hopes for the Honduran economic situation.

BRIEFS

NEW GUATEMALAN AMBASSADOR -- General Oscar R. Cuyon Medina, the appointed Guatemalan ambassador to Honduras, has presented his credentials to Foreign Secretary Edgardo Paz Barnica at the Foreign Ministry. The ceremony was held yesterday in Tegucigalpa in the presence of several Guatemalan Embassy officials. He will present his credentials to Honduran President Roberto Suazo Cordova at a later date. Cuyon Medina replaces former Guatemalan Ambassador Maria Mercedes Marroquin. [Summary] [Tegucigalpa EL HERALDO in Spanish 24 Jan 84 PA]

FOREIGN MINISTRY CHANGES -- Tegucigalpa, 19 Jan (ACAN-EFE) -- The Honduran Foreign Ministry today appointed Mario Carias Zapata chairman of the Joint Border Commission replacing Rodolfo Rosales Abella, who will become coordinator of the Sovereignty and Border Commission. [Summary] [Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1507 GMT 19 Jan 84 PA]

AMBASSADOR TO EEC -- Engineer Manuel Lopez Luna has been appointed Honduran ambassador to the EEC, replacing Dr Roberto Herrera C ceres, who had occupied the post for several months. [Excerpt] [San Pedro Sula TIEMPO in Spanish 20 Jan 84 p 9 PA]

NICARAGUA

OFFICIAL ON FUNDAMENTAL STATUTE AMENDMENTS

PA082058 Managua Radio Noticias in Spanish 1200 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Text] As is known, in addition to the electoral bill, today the State Council will hear about a draft document amending several articles of the Republic's Fundamental Statute. Domingo Sanchez, vice president of the State Council, reports on the contents of this draft document and its significance for the institutionalization process:

[Begin recording] Nicaragua does not yet have a political constitution. The Magna Carta defines the legal aspects of a nation's life through its statutes. In our case, our Fundamental Statute and Statute of [words indistinct] serve as a constitution.

It now seems that since the legal form of government will change with the election, it is necessary to prepare the transition leading up to the election. This means that since the plans call for electing the Republic's president and vice president, and since the Fundamental Statute talks about a government junta, the statute must be adjusted to the political issues connected with the presidential and vice presidential elections because no president can be elected if the statute refers exclusively to a government junta. The statute must also be adjusted with regard to the Constitutional Assembly. The State Council is currently a legislative body, although it shares responsibility for making the laws with the government junta. The proposal is for the new legislative body to have an unshared legislative capacity.

It is also necessary to make adjustments for state government branches. At present the Fundamental Statute establishes only three branches: The executive branch, which is the government junta; the legislative branch, which is the State Council; and the Supreme Court. Since we are going to hold elections, there will be a Supreme Electoral Council, which will be a state branch. Thus the three branches mentioned -- the legislative and executive branches and the Supreme Court -- will have added a fourth branch, which will be the Supreme Electoral Council. These are the fundamental aspects of the reforms to be submitted today to the State Council plenum, where a commission will be appointed to examine it. It can be debated and approved next week at the next plenum held. [end recording]

The electoral bill that is to be submitted today to the State Council has 20 chapters and approximately 120 articles. Members of the diplomatic corps and the Patriotic Front of the Revolution have been invited to today's presentation. The Electoral Commission has scheduled several meetings to hear the various views on the bill, prior to the article-by-article debate.

ROVING FRENCH AMBASSADOR CONDEMNS AIR RAIDS

PA082000 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Text] Companero Antoine Blanca, the roving French ambassador, arrived in Nicaragua today at 1800 from Costa Rica, as part of a tour he began last week through Central American and Caribbean countries.

President Francois Mitterrand's roving ambassador was welcomed by French Ambassador Rene Ala; Jose Pasos Marciacq, deputy director of the DRI [Department of International Relations]; Companero (Cesar Vega), from the Western Europe Department of the Foreign Ministry; and Companero (Hernan Estrada), from the DRI.

Upon his arrival, Ambassador Blanca spoke to Noticiero Revolution, Voz de Nicaragua, where he reiterated his government's condemnation of the recent air raids perpetrated by aircraft coming from Honduras.

[Begin recording] [Blanca] My trip to Costa Rica was extremely interesting and allowed me to ascertain that the Costa Rican Government and President Luis Alberto Monge have pledged to defend their neutrality in every possible way and to maintain good neighborly relations with all.

[Unidentified reporter] Are you aware that many air raids have been perpetrated by aircraft coming from Honduras [words indistinct]?

[Blanca] The French Government has condemned these attacks.

[Reporter] Thank you very much, Mr Ambassador. [end recording]

VOICE OF SANDINO: BORGE HAS DRUG MONEY IN PANAMA

PA080404 (Clandestine) Voice of Sandino in Spanish to Nicaragua 2300 GMT 7 Feb 84

[Text] Attention Nicaraguan people: Tomas Borge's bank account is number 159-80027-D in the Santander Bank in Panama City. The deposits in his account are made in dollars by a Cuban named Alfredo Landero. These dollars are obtained from drug trafficking by the drug trafficker Tomas Borge.

ARDE CREATES COMMISSIONS TO DRAFT BILLS

PA082349 (Clandestine) Voice of Sandino in Spanish to Nicaragua 2300 GMT 7 Feb 84

[Text] The Democratic Revolutionary Alliance, ARDE, Democratic Assembly has created four commissions to draft bills. ARDE leaders will belong to the commissions, which have been created to draft bills for social and economic development, for political party activities, for commercial and financial activities, for security, and for the armed forces. Now we will listen to Jose Davila, a member of ARDE's Revolutionary Directorate, who will explain some of ARDE's objectives regarding these issues. This recording was made somewhere in the southern part of Nicaragua.

[Begin recording] The Democratic Assembly, ARDE's highest legislative and consultative body, has created four specific commissions to begin drafting bills and plans for our reconstruction after we defeat the totalitarianism currently affecting our country. ARDE is drafting bills so that when we are in Managua we need not improvise the laws that our people and community need, laws that will serve as a basis for the social changes the country is demanding for peace, work, and tranquility in Nicaragua. The first commission is charged with drafting economic bills. Alfonso Robelo is the coordinator of this commission, which will also draft bills for domestic and foreign investment to promote production, trade, and all elements concerning Nicaragua's economic structure.

The second commission is in charge of political bills. I am the coordinator of this commission. We are drafting a political parties bill, an electoral bill, and a municipal bill. We have appointed a subcommission to draft the constitution of Nicaragua. The constitution will contain the principles that the people and ARDE want for Nicaragua.

The third commission is working on social and cultural bills. It is also working on matters related to labor, health, housing, education, and social security. Companero Brooklyn Rivera is the coordinator of this commission and will submit these bills to ARDE's Democratic Assembly.

Commander Eden Pastora is in charge of the fourth commission, which is drafting defense and security bills. It will draft bylaws for the armed forces, the police, and for defense, so that we need not improvise when we get to Managua. The four commissions have been formed in a pluralist way. The five organizations that comprise ARDE -- the Nicaraguan Democratic Movement, the Sandino Revolutionary Front, MISURASATA, the Nicaraguan Democratic Workers Solidarity [Solidaridad de Trabajadores Democraticos Nicaraguense], and the Christian Democratic Solidarity Front -- each has a delegate in the four commissions.

We are drafting these bills pluralistically. We do not want to improvise. This is one of the reasons the FSLN was able to seize the process and put the revolution on a different course, making it totalitarian; the democratic sectors were unable to present definite plans and projects. Today ARDE is drafting these bills and hopes that soon, with the support of the Nicaraguan people, it will put them into practice so that in Nicaragua we can truly have the period of peace, tranquillity, and freedom that the Nicaraguan people need so much. [end recording]

BRIEFS

BULGARIAN TELECOMMUNICATIONS AID -- The Bulgarian Government will give technical and financial assistance to the Nicaraguan Telecommunications and Postal Service Institute, TELCOR, in the installation of a telecommunications microwave system that will connect the Atlantic zone with the rest of the country. The project, which includes a relay of the domestic television service, will be carried out in three stages over a period of 4 years. [Summary] [Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 3 Feb 84 PA]

IRANIAN, AUSTRIAN VISITORS -- Sergio Ramirez, member of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, has received (Mohammad Rairobi), Iran's ambassador to Nicaragua, and Dr Alois Mock, the Austrian People's Party chairman. Ambassador (Rairobi) invited Ramirez to visit Iran. (Rairobi) and Ramirez discussed international affairs and bilateral relations. Mock and Ramirez talked about institutionalizing democracy. [Summary] [Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 3 Feb 84 PA]

WORKERS TO BULGARIA -- Our correspondent in Leon and Chinandega reports that the first contingent of 18 young workers from trade unions affiliated with the Sandinist Workers Federation will leave on 24 February to study in Bulgaria. Eventually, 118 Nicaraguan workers will go to Bulgaria to study for a period of 5 years. [Summary] [Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 3 Feb 84 PA]

DELEGATION TO DOMINICAN REPUBLIC -- A State Council delegation leaves today for Santo Domingo, in the Dominican Republic, to attend as an observer a meeting of the Latin American Parliament's Human Rights Commission. The Nicaraguan party includes Companera Angela Rosa Acevedo, secretary of the Foreign Commission, and Dr (Josefina Ramos), legal adviser to the State Council. For a period of 4 days the Nicaraguan delegation will observe the Latin American Parliament's deliberations on human rights and ethnic groups in this hemisphere. [Text] [Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 4 Feb 84 PA]

COMMENTARY CHARGES U.S. BEHIND GUATEMALAN COUPS

PA081656 Havana International Service in Spanish 2310 GMT 7 Feb 84

["Our America" commentary]

[Excerpts] It is no secret to anyone that the Guatemalan Army constitutes the armed branch of the oligarchy and other sectors of the national bourgeoisie.

At the start of the eighties, the Army intensified its repression against the guerrilla forces who had consolidated and dispersed themselves throughout the country's ample and important areas. The ineffectiveness of the soldiers to eliminate the guerrilla groups speedily provoked concern in the government's top echelons and in the bourgeoisie's ruling circles. The latter then held the Army's High Command responsible for the outbreaks of rebellion in the country, and accused the Army of being ineffective in putting them down.

On 23 March 1982, a coup outsted General Romer Lucas Garcia. A military communique justified the rebellion by asserting that it had been caused by the serious situation in the country and the corruption of the minority that held power. Sixteen months later, after another coup ousted General Efrain Rios Montt, the new rulers said: We have analyzed the situation created by a small group of people who, simply because of personal ambition, are trying to gain power for themselves.

Of course, the CIA and the U.S. Government have always been behind these political and military maneuvers. Guatemala occupies a priority spot in the U.S. Government's general strategy toward Central America. The Guatemalan oligarchy and the Army's most reactionary sectors have placed national interests at the service of imperialism.

Hence, both coups, sponsored by Washington, were intended to reorganize the power structure and achieve more effectiveness in the counterinsurgency operations. Far from attaining these goals, however, the leadership in Guatemala and U.S. imperialism are both being increasingly harassed by the people's rebellion. That is to say, the desired results of the 1982 and 1983 fascist coups have not been achieved. Political deterioration has been accentuated, human rights violations have reached unprecedented levels, and the guerrilla movement has strengthened.

COMMENTATORS VIEW BRAZIL-U.S. RELATIONS

FL071730 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1245 GMT 7 Feb 84

[International commentary by television commentator Miguel Toirac and Javier Rodriguez of the PRENSA LATINA staff, during the "Revista de la Manana" program -- live]

[Text] [Toirac] U.S. Secretary of State George Schultz ends his visit to Brazil today. According to observers, the White House representative's stay in the largest South American country has served to put a different light on the relationship between the two countries. This does not mean however, that Brazil has ceased to retain its former status of being an old political ally of the United States.

The theme of our international commentary today is the signing of various agreements in the military, economic, and technical-scientific fields, in general, and the military-industrial agreement, in particular, because it is thought to be the one on which the two countries have shown a higher degree of consensus.

[Rodriguez] Many analysts believe that relations between these two countries, the United States and Brazil, have been undergoing changes in the last few years. Although they are allies, Brazil's domestic economic situation and foreign policy have differed greatly over the last few years from those of the United States.

In regard to the agreements that were signed, an understanding was reached concerning Brazil's weapons industry, which is the sixth largest in the world. According to this understanding, the United States will use Brazil's industrial facilities to make weapons with U.S. licensing. These arms will be sold to Third World countries, but only with Washington's approval. To Brazil, this agreement means that it will be able to revitalize an industry that, because of its size, is of great economic importance to the country.

For the United States, the agreement represents one more step in its arms race and military buildup in relation to that of the so-called Third World countries. In other words, the production of weapons for U.S. allies in that area of the world will continue. Problems of hunger, misery, and underdevelopment are only worsened by this classic U.S. policy of selling weapons to regimes that favor its foreign policy. These agreements give Washington the power to decide which countries will receive weapons made in Brazil.

The agreements also deal with economic problems. Both Secretary of State George Shultz and Brazilian Foreign Minister Ramiro Saraiva Guerreiro admitted publicly that the two countries have different views on economic issues.

[Toirac] This means that cooperation agreements were not only signed on these matters but also on scientific, special [not further identified], and nuclear matters. However, I think it is important to note that Brazilian authorities reiterated, much to the U.S. officials' disappointment, their refusal to support armed intervention in Central America. They joined those who feel that only dialogue will lead to peace in the strife-torn region, a position counter to the well-known U.S. desire for a military buildup in the area.

[Rodriguez] This is precisely one of the points of friction. We must also analyze this from a more general point of view. We must analyze the reasons the United States has for trying to become closer to Brazil at this time.

[Toirac] Well, at the beginning we indicated that, in effect, both countries view the international situation differently, and Brazil's traditional dependence on U.S. foreign policy has been changing over recent years.

[Rodriguez] These signs of new times have definitely shown that the United States and Brazil do not agree on such important issues as Central America, the Middle East, and southern Africa. It is no secret to anyone that Brazil -- and it has stated this at international meetings -- does not agree with Israel's attacks on the Arab nations. Brazil does not support this. Brazil does not support South Africa's racism, which Washington nurtures and supports. It also does not support South Africa's attacks on Angola and the front line states. Brazil has stated its position on this matter publicly. The regime in Rio de Janeiro has tried to deepen its relations with Africa, and this has logically placed Brazilians in somewhat of a confrontation with the United States.

Another point of friction, as we said earlier, has been the economic matter. Brazil has a $100-billion foreign debt. It is making superhuman efforts to reach agreements with U.S. banks -- its largest creditors -- and the IMF to improve its horrible debt situation.

Brazil is also facing difficult situations caused by U.S. protectionism. The United States has imposed high tariffs on Brazilian imports. Some of these exports, such as steel, are vital to Brazil. These tariffs have caused several conflicts between the two countries and have severely affected Brazilian efforts to improve its serious economic situation. This was also a point of friction during the talks. Obviously, another point of friction was the noose that the IMF is trying to place around Brazil's economy. The whole world knows that the IMF is controlled by the United States and that it is trying to impose burdensome conditions on loans Brazil is negotiating.

[Toirac] Referring to what you were saying, Javier, at the press conference held in Brasilia, Shultz stressed that the United States will continue to keep its troops in Lebanon. He said that the United States will continue to support the government of Al-Jumayyil and keep U.S. troops there because it is important -- everyone knows this, he didn't have to stress it again -- for U.S. relations in the world.

[Rodriguez] This is very true. There are disagreements on those matters but the two nations also disagree on the nuclear question. Brazil has tried, over the years, to develop the nuclear industry and nuclear energy for peaceful purposes -- as Brazil's Government claims -- but the United States has tried to keep tight control over this development to protect its own interests. This led Brazil to try to find enriched uranium through European consortiums. In turn, the United States charged Brazil with breach of contract because Brazil was supposed to buy enriched uranium only from U.S. companies and imposed a large fine, still unpaid, on Brazil. Also, the United States Government has refused in the past few years to sell uranium to Brazil or to authorize licensing for such sales. This is to say that these limits placed on Brazil's nuclear development have also become a problem resulting in disagreements between the two countries.

Brazil has had to reduce its imports because of its huge foreign debt and on top of that, there are U.S. restrictions adversely affecting Brazil's exports.

I think that all this indicates that the Reagan administration has decided to court Brazil, which is experiencing an unprecedented economic and social crisis.

[Toirac] I think there is a final point we should discuss: the continuation of Shultz' visit. He will now go to Grenada. Observers state that Shultz' visit to St Georges's is evidently within the framework of the U.S. determination to extend the military occupation of this Caribbean island, while at the same time Washington is trying to lay the groundwork to keep Grenada's new political mechanisms and power structure under its tutelage for a long time.

This will be a visit in which Shultz will try to manipulate the representatives of the Grenadian population. Why? Because when Shultz arrives in Grenada today, the people will be commemorating the 10th anniversary of their true independence. This was the day on which the United Kingdom granted the island independence after 3 centuries of colonialism. This is a view shared by observers and expressed by international news agencies.

It is no secret that this visit is taking place at a time when more than 400 U.S. soldiers and about 300 soldiers from other countries which participated in the October invasion are still on the island. Shultz' visit also serves as a blessing -- in a manner of speaking -- to the provisional interim government headed by Nicholas Brathwaite and Governor General Sir Paul Scoon. It serves to boost the infamous farce of an election that is scheduled for next year. This election, as we all know, will include candidates such as the former tyrant Eric Gairy.

[Rodriguez] Yes, this is another aspect of Schultz' famous trip throughout Latin America. Again, returning to the Brazilian problem, we must also say that with this visit, the United States has tried to exert greater pressure on its South American neighbor, taking into account the difficult situation Brazil is facing. Brazil has felt compelled to sign agreements permitting the reactivation of its weapons industry. It is evident that this is not a solution to Brazil's terrible economic problems. With these agreements, the United States has not given Brazil a solution to its economic problems not even a hope for a real solution.

There has been no talk of a possible overall solution to Brazil's foreign debt problem. The news agencies have not mentioned this. There has been no talk of better conditions for the payment of this large debt which is owed to U.S. banks. This was only a visit to make a business deal. This was a deal the United States was very interested in: the production of weapons on Brazilian territory using the Brazilian industrial infrastructure. Nevertheless, no steps have been taken to give real support to the revitalization of the Brazilian economy.

I think that time will show the results of these agreements. But now Brazil does not look so much like the unconditional U.S. ally it has been in the past.

UNEAC ISSUES COMMUNIQUE ON MARTI RADIO STATION

FL081815 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Text] In the face of the imminent start of operations of the broadcasting station which desecrates the name of our national hero, Jose Marti, the Commission on Movies, Radio, and Television of the National Union of Cuban Writers and Artists [UNEAC] decided to issue the following communique during a plenary session. The document reads:

First, we wish to protest before counterpart organizations throughout the world, and ask them to join us in condemning the use of the name of a man who was a consistent anti-colonialist and anti-imperialist, and who gave his life to stop the spread of the U.S. exploitative and neocolonialist policy throughout our America to convey the counter revolutionary lie.

Second, we wish to reaffirm the sacred commitment of working hard at all information centers to counteract with our truth the dirty propaganda of the peoples' enemy. This effort has been our main artistic task, responding in such a manner to the Reagan administration's provocations.

Signed, members of the UNEAC Commission on Movies, Radio, and Television

CASTRO MEETS WITH OFFICE OF PEOPLE'S GOVERNMENT

FL081216 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, first secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba and president of the Councils of State and Ministers, met with participants in the 16th national meeting of the Local Organs of the People's Government. Fidel took an interest in the subjects that were most discussed at the meeting and in many aspects of the work done by the Local Organs of the People's Government.

The maximum leader of the revolution also showed interest in the following very important subjects: development of public health and, especially, public health construction projects; construction of schools; double sessions in schools; housing construction plans; and other matters.

PEOPLE'S GOVERNMENT REVIEWS ELECTORAL PROGRESS

FL081440 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Text] The National Electoral Commission of the People's Government met in the Palace of the Revolution to review the progress of the country's electoral program.

As has been reported, the People's Government elections will start on Sunday, 15 April 1984. Delegates to the municipal assemblies will be elected to serve 2 and 1/2 year terms.

The meeting was presided over by Jose Ramon Machado Ventura. The presidents of the provincial electoral commissions, the Isle of Youth municipality, and the special FAR commission participated in the meeting. These commissions reported on the progress of preparations for the elections. From these reports it appears that the elections will be a great success.

The nomination of candidates for delegates to the municipal assemblies of the People's Government will take place from 15 February to 5 March. For the completion of this important task it will be necessary to continue the personnel training seminars, the updating of the voting registers, and the organization of the nominating areas in each [electoral] district.

When the candidates have been nominated, some of the more important tasks to be completed will be the posting of the candidates' photographs and biographies on bulletin boards located in public places, and the identification of electoral colleges.

At the meeting of the National Electoral Commission with the provincial commissions, it was decided that failure to renew identity cards would not keep voters from exercising their right to vote.

WFDY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ENDS 2-DAY MEETING

FL081320 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Text] The meetings that the WFDY Executive Committee is holding at the Palace of Conventions in Havana will end today after 2 days of sessions. The proposal that Moscow be designated the site for the next World Youth and Students' Festival has been approved. The WFDY Executive Committee meetings will be followed tomorrow by the meeting of the International Preparatory Committee of the 12th World Youth and Students' Festival at the Palace of Conventions in Havana.

The need to preserve peace and humankind's right to life was the main subject of yesterday's session of the Executive Committee meeting. The speakers agreed that there is only one way to insure survival, namely, peaceful coexistence among nations with different social regimes. For this reason, the daily struggle for peace and international security is the action strategy of the youth movement.

The U.S. invasion of Grenada, the deployment of U.S. missiles in Europe, and U.S. participation in the aggression against the progressive forces in Lebanon were the three acts most criticized in the debates.

SNTCG LEADERS MEET WITH USSR TRADE MINISTER

FL081747 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Text] Leaders of the National Hotel and Restaurant Workers Union [SNTCG] Secretariat and USSR Trade Minister Grigoriy Ivanovich Vashchenko, member of the CPSU Central Committee and deputy to the Supreme Soviet, have held a meeting in our capital.

Rene Lara Moreno, member of the Central Committee and secretary of the union, briefed the visitor on the organization's activities, mainly those honoring the 15th congress of the Central Organization of Cuban Trade Unions, due to begin on 20 February.

AUSTRALIAN BRIGADE DEPARTS AFTER 3-WEEK STAY

FL082005 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Excerpt] The Australian brigade that visited Cuba for 3 weeks attended a farewell meeting last night at the Julio Antonio Mella international camp. John Bronston, brigade president, praised the work done by brigade members in agriculture and construction activities. Bronston said that the visit to Cuba commits them even more to spreading reports on the Cuban way of life.

MEDICAL AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

FL040210 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2230 GMT 3 Feb 84

[Text] A friendship and cooperation agreement was signed today in Santo Domingo by the rectors of the Autonomous University of Santo Domingo and the Institute of Medical Sciences of Havana. Jose Joaquin (Vido) Medina of the Dominican university and Juan (Vela) Valdes, Cuban representative. signed the agreement establishing the exchange of professors, lecturers, and short courses in the specialties agreed to buy both sides.

The Cuban educational center will receive Dominican graduate students and train them in previously selected specialties.

OFFICIALS CITED ON CENTRAL AMERICAN SITUATION

De la Espriella on Intervention

PA081734 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Text] Panamanian President Ricardo de la Espriella has stated that there is a constant threat of intervention to our countries. He said that the Contadora Group, which so far has prevented clashes in Central America, must double its efforts, because if vigilance ceases, others could take it as a sign of weakness.

The Panamanian president told PRENSA LATINA during an interview that the change of government in Venezuela provides a very important element for the Contadora Group. He said that President Lusinchi assured him that Venezuela will maintain support for and increase cooperation with Contadora.

De la Espriella added that although it may appear that no results have been achieved, the results are there -- work commissions are organized and, more important, confrontation has been prevented. He noted that Contadora is not a combative group, and has offered to act as an intermediary between those in conflict.

The Panamanian president also said that he will never approve of the United States' covert aid to Nicaraguan counterrevolutionaries, and that any interference in a country's internal affairs is harmful.

De la Madrid on Kissinger Report

FL081430 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Text] With a call to the United States to refrain from interfering in Central America, Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid began his first news conference since taking office. On this occasion, he also praised Commander in Chief Fidel Castro.

During this news conference, de la Madrid harshly criticized the report of the Kissinger commission for Central America, particularly the parts of the report that suggest a military solution for the crisis which is in open opposition to the Contadora Group's peace efforts.

A military intervention in Central America, De la Madrid stressed, would aggravate current problems not only in the region but throughout the continent. De la Madrid stated that he opposes such action and noted that the attitude of the Cuban Government has been positive in regard to the Contadora Group's peace efforts.

He added that Fidel has repeatedly expressed a willingness to comply with the Contadora accords. This attitude favors the Contadora Group negotiations, the Mexican leader said, comparing the stand of our leader with that of the Reagan administration.

Ecuador's Borja on U.S. Policy

PA081803 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Text] Ecuadoran presidential candidate Rodrigo Borja described the U.S. policy toward Latin America as disconcerting, and said that this is not the best method of fostering friendly relations with the region's countries.

In declarations to the Caracas newspaper EL DIARIO DE CARACAS, the Democratic Left party leader stressed the Contadora Group's efforts for peace in Central America. Borja said that Central American peoples should determine their own destinies, and he rejected all military intervention in the area. He added that the OAS is a reflection of the countries it is composed of, many of which are governed by dictatorial regimes that do not have the slighest respect for human rights or the will of their people.

Borja won Ecuador's elections in January by a slight margin, but he will face a runoff in May with rightist leader Leon Febres Cordero.

French Envoy on C.A. Crisis

PA082016 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Text] Antoine Blanca, roving French ambassador for Latin America, declared in San Jose that the Central American situation is worrisome, and stressed that most of the region's problems stem from the prevailing social injustice and a lack of dialogue and negotiations.

Blanca said that France is uneasy over Central America's crisis, and he expressed confidence that the Contadora Group will be able to overcome the problems in the area.

Blanca met in San Jose with Public Security Minister Angel Edmundo Solano, Interior Minister Alfonso Carro, and Deputy Foreign Minister Ekhart Peters.

FMLN OFFENSIVE, ARMY ACTIONS IN EL SALVADOR

FMLN Occupies 5 Towns

FL081832 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Text] FMLN forces have occupied five towns located in the eastern departments, while the Salvadoran Army has concentrated its attacks on Volcano de Guazapa.

Military sources have acknowledged that since Monday afternoon the insurgents have taken the towns of Chinameca, (Cujuapa), Lolotique, Nueva Guadalupe, and San Buenaventura, all located in the Departments of San Miguel and Usulutan. Many troops have been sent to this area.

The guerrilla offensive bewildered the military command, which in turn unleashed an offensive against Guazapa following indiscriminate air raids by the Air Force.

Army Shells Towns

FL081520 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Text] The Salvadoran Army has continued to shell rural towns and deploy a large number of forces, while rebel actions continued to increase with the sabotage of electrical installations and armed clashes.

The city of Chalatenango has been without electricity for 4 days while the guerrillas continued their offensive in the rest of the department, rendering fruitless efforts of government troops to recover lost positions despite Air Force support.

The rebel radio station reported other clashes in Usulutan and San Miguel, but did not disclose casualty figures.

Meanwhile, several stretches of the northern highway remain under rebel control.

On another subject, it was learned that the U.S. House of Representatives approved a bill in which any future military aid to El Salvador is conditional on an improvement in human rights in that country and suspension of death squad activities. The bill, which must now be ratified by the Senate, is a serious blow to the Reagan administration, which opposes having to report every 6 months on the status of human rights in El Salvador.

Clashes in Usulutan, San Miguel

PA081813 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Text] Clashes have occurred in the past few hours between Army and FMLN troops in Usulutan and San Miguel Departments, while in the Aguilares area near San Salvador, rebel squads attacked guards on a bridge over the Acelhuate River.

Other clashes occurred in Suchitoto, which was strafed by the Salvadoran Air Force's A-37 planes. Employing air support, the Salvadoran Army began moving troops toward Chalatenango Department, which is virtually under FMLN control. Chalatenango has been without electricity for 4 days as the result of rebel sabotage actions.

Other reports say that using the motto "The homeland does not want students but soldiers," the Salvadoran Army has continued forcefully recruiting young men throughout the country.

It was also noted that because of discrepancies and conflicting interests among political organizations vying for power in El Salvador, the Legislative Assembly has failed to reach a consensus on important issues related to the 25 March elections.

GUATEMALAN REBEL EXPLAINS URNG ACHIEVEMENTS

PA082200 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Pedro Martinez Pirez interview with Andrea Ramirez, member of the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity, URNG, representation in Cuba -- recorded]

[Text] [Martinez] Andrea, how do you view the 2 years that have passed since the proclamation of the URNG?

[Ramirez] The organizations that form part of the URNG have gained much knowledge. These forces are the Poor People's Guerrilla Army [EGP], the Rebel Armed Forces [FAR], the Revolutionary Organization of the People in Arms [ORPA], and the Guatemalan Labor Party [PGT].

We believe, Pedro, that in addition to this, the URNG has been gaining political weight and authority at both the national and international level.

It is being increasingly acknowledged that the 5-point government program presented by the URNG in February 1982 represents the only viable political alternative our people have.

The various military and repressive governments that have existed in Guatemala have applied the most brutal repression to stay in power. This is not acceptable to our people, so for this reason and based on the justice of our struggle, we are promoting in all areas of the country -- with the participation of all the people, of all the sectors -- the revolutionary people's war.

Another aspect we can mention is an improvement at the operational level. This has resulted in ever-increasing coordination between the political and military branches, reinstatement of the struggle in urban sectors and in the central highlands, and arms extermination and recovery operations,

The Guatemalan revolutionary forces are achieving the objective of restricting the Guatemalan Army to our territory. We have prevented this genocidal Army from attacking -- based on U.S. plans -- Nicaraguan territory and our Sandinist brothers or Salvadoran territory and the heroic people of El Salvador. This is one of the aspects on which the Guatemalan revolutionaries have made efforts to aid the revolutionary movement, thus acting in solidarity with the Central American people.

The guidelines, analyses, and orders issued by the URNG have been objective and correct; the URNG's programs have served as a basis for the consolidation of broad and pro-unity organizations into a broad front, which is one of the great objectives of the URNG.

[Martinez] Andrea, I would like to know how you would characterize the Guatemalan situation of the past 2 years.

[Ramirez] The polarization of two forces confronting each other in Guatemala; the confrontation between the forces of the people and their vanguard, the URNG, and the various governments that respond to the policy and interests backed by U.S. imperialism. This polarization has become increasingly acute as the Reagan administration's meddling increases and its interventionist plans in Guatemala and in Central America advance. We can affirm that with this polarization our people have gained an ever more profound awareness of who is the immediate and primary enemy.

Various sectors of the population are participating in our liberation process. This has been recognized both nationally and internationally. Peasants, students, workers, young people, women, elderly people -- we are all committed to this common effort for the liberty of our people. In Guatemala, in every corner of the country, there is struggle. In San Marcos, Huehuetenango, Peten, Quetzaltenango, Zacapa, the capital, in areas near the coasts, everywhere the people are struggling. However, the fighting is more intense in some areas of the country. We could say that the most intense fighting is taking place in the country's northwestern region and in the capital.

The polarization I mentioned is characteristic of an irreconciliable, relentless, and antagonistic struggle. The regime in our country has intensified repressive methods to a degrees never known before in Latin America. It is trying to make our people bend. It has applied a policy of genocide and ravaged the land for 2 years, and it has been demonstrated to the world that our people are not subdued, that the Guatemalan people are fighting, and that they will continue facing the enemy and those who support the enemy. We will do this until we achieve victory. We are sure of this.

GUATEMALAN ANTI-COMMUNIST ALLIANCE MEETS

PA081616 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Text] A Service for Information and Analysis of Guatemala bulletin circulated in Mexico City has reported that former Guatemalan heads of state and leaders of anti-communist organizations have held secret meetings to consolidate a large alliance, with the objective of seizing control of the regime.

The bulletin reports that former Guatemalan dictators Romeo Lucas Garcia and Kjell Eugenio Laugerud Garcia met secretly last week in Miami with other political leaders.

According to reports, those at the meeting discussed the possibility of forming a large anticommunist alliance that would participate in the national constituent assembly elections scheduled for 1 July, and would appoint a provisional president following this.

PALME TO VISIT NICARAGUA, TALK TO FSLN LEADERS

FL081410 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Text] Sweden's Prime Minister Olof Palme will arrive tomorrow in Managua where he will participate in many scheduled activities during his almost 48-hour stay in Nicaragua.

The prime minister will meet with Nicaraguan officials and the FSLN leadership. Friday morning, 10 February, he will inaugurate a hospital in the city of Rivas, built with Swedish financing. Also on that day, Olof Palme will meet with members of the Swedish volunteer service to hear a report on technical and financial aid programs in the agroindustrial sector which this volunteer service is developing in Nicaragua.

SENATOR, DEPUTIES DECLARE HUNGER STRIKE IN PERU

PA081954 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Text] At the Fisheries Ministry's office, one Peruvian senator and two deputies declared a hunger strike in protest of the ill-treatment by Minister (Ismael Benavides) of PescaPeru, S.A. enterprise workers.

The hunger strikers are Edmundo Murrugara of the United Left Coalition, and (Zosimo Vicuna) and (Orestes Rodriguez) of APRA [American Popular Revolutionary Alliance].

The Peruvian fisheries minister had threatened to issue a decree that would endanger the job stability of the fishing industry workers.

Some 12,000 workers from the state enterprise ElectroPeru completed their second day of a strike, demanding that collective agreements be fulfilled and that 10 union leaders who were dismissed be reinstated.

In addition, it was reported that an intensive effort will begin Thursday in Peru to demand that the government change its economic policy, which has been called antipopular. The action has been organized by the National Unity Committee for Struggle [Comite Nacional Unitario de Lucha], which is composed of the country's most important labor and peasant federations.

According to other reports, 7 people were detained and 10 others were seriously wounded as a result of being tortured at the Huanta Province barracks in Ayacucho Department. The charge was made by EL DIARIO MARCA, a Lima paper, which cites eyewitnesses and relatives of those detained.

CARIBBEAN CHURCHES ON U.S. PRESENCE IN GRENADA

FL072340 Bridgetown CANA in English 2036 GMT 7 Feb 84

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, Feb 7 (CANA) -- The people of Grenada, where President Reagan sent troops to unseat a military junta last October, are still a long way from being free, according to the CARIBBEAN CONTACT newspaper. "Grenadians have not been given their freedom," the monthly said. "Theirs is still a long and difficult road ahead to win and create that freedom for themselves." The claim was made in an editorial in which the paper said that Grenada's new caretaker government was accountable not to Grenadians but to the U.S. Administration. The paper, published by the Caribbean Conference of Churches, was also critical of former Prime Minister Eric Gairy's call for the United States to have a permanent military presence on Grenada. It said the stage may be set for "a remarkable political trade-off" between the U.S. and Gairy, involving permission for Washington to establish a military and naval base in Grenada in return for deepened U.S. support for Gairy's bid for power.

In its January-February edition, CARIBBEAN CONTACT said Grenada's interim administration, like the leftist government of Maurice Bishop, who was ousted and killed by the Army, lacked popular accountability. "In the final resort," said the paper, "the administration is accountable not to Grenadians but to the U.S. Government and U.S. Armed Forces that put and maintain it where it is." It described Gairy's suggestion on a U.S. military presence as "fraught with negative implications, not only for the people of Grenada but the whole region." It added: "In effect, the stage may be set for a remarkable political trade-off: the prospective offer of a military and naval base in Grenada in return for deepened U.S. support of a renewed Gairyite bid for power."

Gairy was ousted in a 1979 coup by Bishop's New Jewel Movement (NJM). He returned home last month after spending almost five years in exile in the United States. CARIBBEAN CONTACT said his return had destroyed the possibility of Grenada having "a gradual return to peaceful obscurity away from the international limelight" after last year's political and military disturbances.

DOMINICA

MINISTER COMPLAINS ABOUT USE OF FOREIGN EXCHANGE

FL081500 Bridgetown CANA in English 1443 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Text] Roseau, Dominica, Feb 8 (CANA) -- Dominica's Labour Minister Brian Alleyne has complained here that much-needed foreign exchange resources were being spent in purchasing consumer goods, and warned of a descending spiral of economic depression. Addressing trade union officials at the start of a 1-week seminar here, Alleyne expressed concern that modern technology had allowed Dominicans to view (presumably on TV) "American advertisements so skillfully devised to titillate the ambitions and tastes of a consumer-oriented society." As a result, he said, Dominicans were now beginning to demand what appears to them to be goods so easily available to Americans.

"Because our economies are not engaged in productive activity at the level to supply these resources, we fall into a descending spiral of economic depression which becomes more and more desperate as the tastes and demands of our citizens become more and more extravagant," Alleyne said. "We have the extravagant consumer tastes and ambitions of the industrialized world, without the work ethic that is a necessary support for this," he told the seminar, being sponsored jointly by the Caribbean Congress of Labour and the Waterfront and Allied Workers Union (WAWU).

Such taste for consumer goods had begun to put pressure on the economy and "valuable foreign exchange resources are being exported to purchase consumer goods to satisfy this demand," the minister said. Alleyne said that in the period 1982-83 Dominica's rate of economic growth slowed to a modest 3.3 percent, although manufacturing output grew by an impressive 9.6 percent and is expected to continue to perform well. But he warned that productivity is vital to today's competitive industrial world, saying "we will get nowhere by sitting down and waiting for our share."

"What we need to do is aggressively tackle the opportunities which present themselves to us, go after them and ensure that we tie them down for the benefit of our people," he added. The country cannot develop if "we...sit on the street corner all day and all night smoking grass and playing dominoes," the labour minister declared. "Like heaven, friendly nations only help those who help themselves and if we believe that aid will keep flowing our way whether we make any effort on our own behalf or not, we are in for a serious shock."

JAMAICA

FORMER JLP LEADER ON LACK OF ELECTED OPPOSITION

FL072338 Bridgetown CANA in English 2029 GMT 7 Feb 84

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, Feb 7 (CANA) -- Frank Phipps, a former chairman of the ruling Jamaica Labour Party (JLP), has warned here that the government's approach to dealing with a lack of an elected opposition in Parliament could lead to a "creeping totalitarianism." "It is like a lady's bikini," Phipps said of the so-called new parliamentary order. "What it reveals is suggestive, what it conceals is vital."

The JLP gained all 60 seats in the House of Representatives following a boycott of the December 15 general elections by the main opposition, the People's National Party, which complained about the election machinery. To compensate for this, Prime Minister Edward Seaga has made provisions for persons having an interest in legislation before Parliament to be able to make presentation from the bar of the House at the time when the chamber has resolved itself into a committee of the whole to deal with bills clause by clause. On each bill, the equivalent of 15 seats will be awarded to the public, and persons wishing to make presentations will have to send their written script to the Speaker of the House in advance, for vetting to ensure it adhered to the standing-orders, the government has said.

Phipps said the arrangement was an unusual procedure, and that while "it may be suggestive of parliamentary democracy, it may in fact lead to a creeping totalitarianism." A leading lawyer here, Phipps, who was forced out of the JLP chairmanship in the late 1970's during a party row that also involved Prime Minister Seaga, claimed that the Jamaican Constitution did not allow for speakers from the public to address the House. What is affordable under Parliamentary Standing Order 78 was for "witnesses" to appear before parliamentary committees, which was something different, Phipps said. "I wish to state affirmatively that it is wrong to afford any person any audience in the House of Representatives," he declared.

"In 1984 we cannot afford to turn back to a system of nominated representation. As notable as the purpose and motive may be, it is constitutionally wrong." Phipps said that the situation was particularly worrying for while at this instance there was no opposition, the next thing could be that there were no elections, and any spurious argument, such as fear of violence, adduced.

NORTH KOREAN DELEGATION TO ARRIVE 17 FEB

FL081634 Bridgetown CANA in English 1523 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, Feb 8 (CANA) -- A delegation from the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) will arrive here on February 17 for the first meeting of the Guyana-North Korea Joint Economic Commission, an official statement said today.

The setting up of the commission was decided on during a visit to the DPRK last December by President Forbes Burnham.

Burnham had talks with North Korean President Kim Il-song on the need for economic co-operation between the two countries, with special emphasis on agriculture, trade, health, and resource development.

The delegation will be headed by North Korea's Minister for Economic Affairs Chong Song-nam. The nine officials will spend about two weeks here.

The Guyana Ministry of Foreign Affairs said the visit will further strengthen the already "sound relations" between Guyana and the DPRK.

ASSEMBLY DEBATES, APPROVES GOVERNMENT'S BUDGET

FL082036 Bridgetown CANA in English 1940 GMT 8 Feb 84

[By Leon Walcott]

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, Feb 8 (CANA) -- The Guyana National Assembly (Parliament) last night approved the government's 1.5 billion dollar (one Guy dollar; 27 cents U.S.) budget for 1984, presented a week ago by Finance and Economic Planning Minister Carl Greenridge.

Winding up the debate, Prime Minister Dr Ptolemy Reid said that country's economic crisis was linked to external factors and urged the opposition parties in the chamber "not to lose touch with reality."

Marxist opposition leader Dr Chedi Jagan has accused the government of poor economic planning which, he said, was at the root of the economic problems facing this socialist English-speaking South American nation.

"If we lose touch of the international scene, we will lose all that we have struggled for," said Reid.

Guyana's economic problems are manifest in a severe foreign exchange crisis which has caused the government to cut back on imports, including some basic food items.

Reid said Guyana was a target of cultural and economic aggression and stressed the need for food security as the way to true political independence.

Reid told the Assembly that in spite of the problems facing the government, serious efforts to increase and improve housing facilities have been made.

There has also been a general improvement in educational opportunities, he noted.

However, the time has come when efforts and resources have to be concentrated to achieve co-operation, production, and defence, since "we have the task of defending the revolution," the prime minister said.

If Guyanese appreciate what is going on, he added, they will get the courage to "carry on the fight."

Reid said Guyanese must ensure that food is never used as a weapon by the "imperialists" to thwart the country's socialist path.

"Adequate supplies of food are vital to genuine development," he said. "Many people thought the withholding of wheat from Guyana would have sparked off food riots."

The PPP, the bigger of the two opposition groups in parliament, had recommended to government the following measures to ease the economic crisis: a reduction in the money allocated to the foreign diplomatic missions and reduced military spending.

The party called, too, for the discontinuation of talks with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) for economic assistance and a reduction of "the bloated government bureaucracy."

POLICE PREVENT CLASH BETWEEN PNC, PPP SUPPORTERS

FL081315 Brigetown CANA in English 2324 GMT 7 Feb 84

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, Feb 7 (CANA) -- Guyana Police today prevented a clash outside parliament by supporters of the ruling People's National Congress (PNC) and the opposition People's Progressive Party (PPP) as the National Assembly debated the 1984 budget.

Eyewitnesses said the rival groups exchanged verbal abuse as their picket lines passed within inches of each other. Police had decided to separate the groups so as to avoid physical clashes.

Placards carried by the PNC supporters praised the government's economic strategy and called on Guyanese to make greater use of local resources.

The PPP placards, on the other hand, criticised the budget proposals and accused the government, among other things, of "starving the workers."

The PPP supporters also called for increased wages in face of the rising cost of living.

The 1984 budget, which makes provisions for expenditure amounting to 1.5 billion dollars (1 Guy dollar; 27 cents U.S.), was presented by Finance and Economic Planning Minister Carl Greenridge last Monday.

PRIVATE SECTOR FAILS TO NOMINATE CABINET MEMBERS

FL081910 Bridgetown CANA in English 1849 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Text] Paramaribo, Suriname, Feb 8 (CANA) -- The Suriname private sector has so far failed to nominate two representatives to take up cabinet positions in the country's one-week-old interim government, the official SURINAME NEWS AGENCY (SNA) said today. Two representatives who will fill the positions of minister of finance and planning and minister of public health were expected to be announced Monday.

Commander of the Suriname Revolution Lieutenant-Colonel Desi Bouterse appointed a cabinet headed by educator Wim Udenhout, 46, to take over the administration of Suriname from the government of Prime Minister Errol Alibux which resigned amid a crippling strike in the vital bauxite industry last month. The major tasks of the present seven-member government, which will remain in office for about four months, will be to restore economic and political order after the strike and establish democratic structures. The private sector had promised Bouterse that it would nominate representatives to serve in the "crisis cabinet." The new government is Suriname's fifth since the Army seized power four years ago.

Prior to his appointment as head of the provisional cabinet, Prime Minister Wim Udenhout was course leader and lecturer in English at the Teacher's Training Institute here. Between 1978 and last year he was lecturer in the technical faculty at the University of Suriname. In 1964 he went to Holland to further his studies and six years later obtained a teaching certificate in the English language. Udenhout came back home in 1967 and worked until 1970 at a secondary school before returning to Holland, where in 1975 he completed his studies in English language and literature (philology) at the University of Leyden.

In a short interview after his appointment as prime minister, Udenhout said he was never attached to any political party and was oriented towards helping individuals or groups, particularly those less fortunate.

DE WARE TIJD NEWSPAPER QUOTED ON LOAN FROM U.S.

FL081620 Bridgetown CANA in English 1527 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Text] Paramaribo, Suriname, Feb 8 (CANA) -- Financially-strapped Suriname stands to benefit from 130,000 dollars (U.S.) in loans from the United States over the next two years, the daily newspaper DE WARE TIJD has reported. The newspaper account reported by the official SURINAME NEWS AGENCY (SNA) said 50,000 dollars of the amount was for disbursement during the current fiscal year, with the remaining funds put aside for 1985.

Washington cut off 1.5 million dollars in aid to this former Dutch colony in December 1982 to protest the execution that month of 15 prominent opponents of the leftist military government. Holland also curtailed a vital 100-million dollar [as received] aid programme. As a result, the government has found itself enmeshed in a serious economic crisis.

SNA did not say if the newspaper gave the source of the information.

SNA announced that the European Economic Commission had approved a loan of 12.3 million guilders (one guilder; 55 cents U.S.) three weeks ago to Suriname. The funds, which SNA said were approved in the face of opposition from Holland, will be used to help develop the rice industry, a key foreign exchange earner. The European Commission has already made 20 million guilders in loans available to Suriname.

BOLIVIA

BUSINESSMEN'S STOPPAGE CONCLUDES; NO INCIDENTS

PY081300 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1100 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Excerpt] The 48-hour stoppage called by the Bolivian Confederation of Private Businessmen was carried out without incident. Undoubtedly, however, the paralyzation of activities affected a large part of the industrial and commercial sectors. The workers staged protest marches on Monday and Tuesday, but there were no incidents.

In remarks to the media, Planning and Coordination Minister Roberto Jordan Pando reiterated that the businessmen's stoppage had political connotations aimed at destabilizing the democratic process. He also stated that the UDP [Democratic and Popular Unity] government was not duly informed about the resolutions approved during the National Congress of Free Enterprises which took place in La Paz a few days ago.

Private businessmen and labor leaders have expressed their desire to start a dialogue in order to analyze various aspects that concern the two sectors. It is hoped that this dialogue will begin within the new few hours.

PARAGUAY

FORMER MOPOCO PRESIDENT RETURNS FROM EXILE

PY071710 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 7 Feb 84 p 10

[Excerpt] Shortly after he arrived in Paraguay yesterday, Dr Mario L. Mallorquin, a former president of the Popular Colorado Movement (MOPOCO), said that "MOPOCO members are continuing to return to Paraguay because they still expect that the country's democratic normalization will take place at any time and that the political process leading to such a normalization will be started." Mallorquin was met at the airport by MOPOCO members, members of the National Accord, relatives, and friends.

After he was delayed for several minutes, Mallorquin finally met with his relatives and friends outside the airport, because according to policemen assigned there, no one was allowed inside for security reasons.

PERU

MARINES REPLACE STRIKING PORT STEVEDORES

PY081400 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0429 GMT 8 Feb 84

[Text] Lima, 7 Feb (EFE) -- Peruvian Marines today took the place of the stevedores that are on strike in the most important Peruvian ports; El Callao -- the port for Lima -- and Chimbote.

Today was the second day of the stevedore strike. They are demanding an improvement in their economic benefits, and have announced that as of tomorrow they will begin staggered strikes without prior warning if the National Port Enterprise does not accept their demands. It is estimated that the strike is causing a daily loss of $500,000.

INTERIOR MINISTER REPORTS ON SHINING PATH

PY071451 Lima Cadena Panamericana Television in Spanish 0300 GMT 7 Feb 84

[Excerpt] Interior Minister Luis Percovich Roca has stated that the Shining Path is reorganizing and reactivating its cells due to the arrests of prominent members by the police.

Percovich also scored some news media for their sensationalism and for their intention to stir up a conflict between police officials and policemen.

[Begin Percovich recording] The events taking place in the emergency zone have to be commented upon, cleared up and recorded by the political-military command of the emergency zone. The Interior Ministry has direct responsibility for the areas outside the emergency zone. My statements concern these areas and the Shining Path actions and the actions taken by the police in them. It is no secret to anyone that several cells have recently been broken up, and that the Shining Path leaders have been captured. Among the latter, I have already mentioned Antonio Diaz Martinez and the former sociology professor at San Cristobal University in Huamanga. But I have also said on one of these programs that this should not lead us to make optimistic or boastful statements; I am merely reporting on the events. [end recording]

URUGUAY

GENERAL RAPELA NAMED NEW INTERIOR MINISTER

PY090040 Montevideo Radio Carve Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 9 Feb 84

[Text] General Julio Cesar Rapela, retired, will be the new Uruguayan interior minister.

It has been officially reported that Rapela's appointment will be approved by President Alvarez at a cabinet meeting next Friday.

Rapela, who retired recently, will be sworn in on that same day at 1030, replacing General Hugo Linares Brum.

HEALTH EMPLOYEE DETAINED FOR TIES WITH PVP

[Text] Montevideo, 7 Feb (AFP) -- Police today reported that an employee of the Department of Health Insurance of Health Workers has been detained because of ties with the subversive association People's Victory Party (PVP), which is an illegal organization.

The police have reported in a communique that subversive equipment was found in the home of Gloria Susana Castro Machado, 27, and that it had been discovered that meetings of PVP members had been held there.

The PVP, which was apparantly disrupted several years ago, was created after the joint police-military forces disbanded the Tupamaro guerrilla group, various members of which joined the PVP for subversive operations.